

The list of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-6. (Canceled)

7. (Withdrawn) A method of screening for compounds useful for facilitating vascular growth in a subject in need thereof, comprising:

contacting a test compound to a probe molecule, said probe molecule selected from the group consisting of EMAP II and fragments thereof; and then

detecting the presence or absence of binding of said test compound to said probe molecule, the presence of binding indicating said compound may be useful for facilitating vascular growth in a subject.

8. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 7, wherein said test compound is a member of a combinatorial library.

9. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 7, wherein said test compound is a protein or peptide.

10. (Withdrawn) A [[The]] method of screening for compounds useful for facilitating vascular growth in a subject, comprising:

contacting a test compound to probe molecule, said probe molecule selected from the group consisting of DNA encoding EMAP II, RNA encoding EMAP II, and fragments thereof; and then

detecting the presence or absence of binding of said test compound to said probe molecule, the presence of binding indicating said compound may be useful for facilitating vascular growth in a subject.

11. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 10, wherein said test compound is a member of a combinatorial library.

12. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 10, wherein said test compound is an oligonucleotide.

13. (Currently Amended) A [[The]] method of screening for compounds useful for facilitating vascular growth in a subject, comprising:

determining *in vitro* whether a test compound inhibits expression of an EMAP II of SEQ ID NO: 14 or 15;

the inhibition of expression of the EMAP II of SEQ ID NO: 14 or 15 indicating said compound may be useful for facilitating vascular growth in a subject.

14. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 13, wherein said determining step is carried out in a cell.

15. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 13, wherein said determining step comprises determining whether said compound inhibits transcription of a nucleic acid encoding an EMAP II of SEQ ID NO: 14 or 15.

16. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 13, wherein said determining step comprises determining whether said compound inhibits translation of a nucleic acid encoding an EMAP II of SEQ ID NO: 14 or 15.

17-20. (Canceled)

21. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 13, wherein said determining step is carried out in a cell-free preparation.